

**REMARKS / ARGUMENTS**

The present application includes pending claims 1, 2, 4-10 and 12-14. Claims 8 and 14 are allowed. Claims 3 and 11 are cancelled. Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9, 10, 12-13 have been rejected. By this Amendment, claims 1-2, 5-9, and 13-14 have been amended, as set forth above, to address the Examiner's rejections, to further clarify the language used in these claims and to further prosecution of the present application. New claims 15-18 have been presented. The Applicant respectfully submits that the claims define patentable subject matter.

Initially, the Applicant notes that a goal of patent examination is to provide a prompt and complete examination of a patent application.

It is essential that patent applicants obtain a prompt yet complete examination of their applications. Under the principles of compact prosecution, each claim should be reviewed for compliance with every statutory requirement for patentability in the *initial review* of the application, even if one or more claims are found to be deficient with respect to some statutory requirement. Thus, Office personnel *should* state *all* reasons and bases for rejecting claims in the *first* Office action. Deficiencies should be explained clearly, particularly when they serve as a basis for a rejection. Whenever practicable, Office personnel should indicate how rejections may be overcome and how problems may be resolved. A failure to follow this approach can lead to unnecessary delays in the prosecution of the application.

See Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) § 2106(II). As such, the Applicant assumes, based on the goals of patent examination noted above, that

the present Office Action has set forth "all reasons and bases" for rejecting the claims.

Claims 1, 5-7, 9-10, and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection at least for the reasons previously set forth during prosecution and at least based on the following remarks.

**I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph**

Claims 1, 5-7, 9-10, and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. **The Applicant traverses this rejection, but nevertheless has amended claims 1, 5-7, 9-10, and 13, as set forth above, to further prosecution of the present application. The Applicant submits that claims 1, 5-7, 9-10, and 13 are not indefinite and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph should be removed.**

The test for whether claim language is sufficiently definite to be patented is as follows:

The requirements for clarity and precision must be balanced with the limitations of the language and the science. If the claims, read in light of the specification, reasonably apprise those skilled in the art both of the utilization and scope of the invention, and if the language is as precise as the subject matter permits, the statute (35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph) demands no more.

See § 2173.05(a) MPEP.

The relevant statute, 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 2 (1988), requires that the claims "particularly [point] out and distinctly [claim] the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention." The operative standard for determining whether this requirement has been met is "whether those skilled in the art would understand what is claimed when the claim is read in light of the specification."

The Office Action states the following:

Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 13 recite "means for sending a portion of an input data stream and writing at least some of a remaining portion of bits of said input data stream to a memory buffer according to a first interleaving pattern". **It is unclear how the interleaving pattern affects the sending (transmitting) the portion of the input data stream and the writing (storing) the remaining portion of bits to the memory.** For example, the input data stream could be transmitted only if the interleaving pattern satisfies certain conditions, or the input data stream could be sent (transmitted) through different channels based on the interleaving pattern in some way.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 13 recite "for sending a portion of an input data stream comprising every C<sup>th</sup> bit of the input data stream and for writing at least some of a remaining". **This limitation is unclear in meaning because it is impossible to determine the conditions set forth on how many input data stream are sent and written.**

Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the necessary structural connections. See MPEP § 2172.01.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 13 recite, "input data stream comprising every C<sup>th</sup> of the input data stream wherein C comprises a number of columns in said memory". The omitted structural cooperative

relationships are: "every C<sup>th</sup> of the input data stream and a number of columns in said memory". **It is unclear how the every C<sup>th</sup> bit of the input data stream related to the number of columns in the memory buffer.** Cooperative structural relationship have omitted from the claim since the C<sup>th</sup> bit with the number of columns can neither be visualized in the drawings nor can be clearly understood from the claimed language for proper examination.

See the Office Action at pages 3-4 (emphasis added). More specifically, the Examiner states that "it is unclear how the interleaving pattern affects the sending (transmitting) the portion of the input data stream and the writing (storing) the remaining portion of bits to the memory." The Applicant has amended claims 1, 5-7, 9-10, and 13 to clarify that it is the writing to (or reading from) the memory buffer that is performed based on the interleaving pattern. The Applicant points out that the memory buffer processing is clarified in the present application with regard to at least paragraphs 1037-1044.

The Examiner states that "C<sup>th</sup> bit" limitation "is unclear in meaning because it is impossible to determine the conditions set forth on how many input data stream are sent and written." The Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits that the claim language of claims 1, 5-7, 9-10, and 13 is sufficiently clear. The Applicant points out that claim 1, for example, sufficiently clear states that processing is performed with regard to "an input data stream" (i.e., **a single data stream**). Furthermore, claim 1 sufficiently clear states that every C<sup>th</sup> bit is sent downstream for processing and a remaining portion of bits from **the single input**

**data stream** is written in the memory buffer. In reference to the specification, the Examiner is referred to, for example, paragraphs 1037-1044 of the present application for clarification.

The Examiner further states that "it is unclear how the every  $C^{th}$  bit of the input data stream related to the number of columns in the memory buffer." The Applicant has amended claims 1, 5-7, 9-10, and 13 to clarify that the  $C^{th}$  bit is an integer that indicates the number of columns in the memory buffer. The Applicant points out that specific examples of the use of the  $C^{th}$  bit in bit stream processing are disclosed by the Applicant in at least paragraphs 1041-1044 of the present application.

At least for the above reasons, the Applicant submits that claims 1, 5-7, 9-10, and 13 are definite and are readily understandable to a person ordinarily skilled in the art upon review of the present application. The Applicant notes that claims 1, 5-7, 9-10, and 13 have been amended to further clarify the language used by the Applicant with regard to the processing of portions of received video data, as claimed by the Applicant in the present application.

Therefore, at least for the reasons stated above, the Applicant submits that claims 1, 2, 4-10 and 12-14 are not indefinite and are allowable.

## **II. Allowable Subject Matter**

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The Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 8 and 14. The Applicant has entered new independent claim 15, which is based on the allowed claim 8. The Applicant has also entered new claims 16-18, which depend from independent claim 15. The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 8 and 14-18 are allowable.

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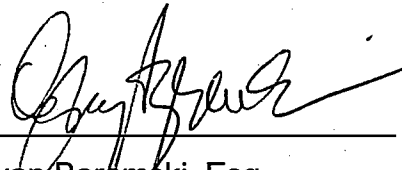
**CONCLUSION**

Based on at least the foregoing, the Applicant believes that all claims 1, 2, 4-10 and 12-18 are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner disagrees, the Applicant respectfully requests a telephone interview, and requests that the Examiner telephone the undersigned Attorney at (312) 775-8176.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to the deposit account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd., Account No. 13-0017.

A Notice of Allowability is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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